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Message Text

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70
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 IO-13 OPR-02 A-01 CPR-01 USSS-00 SY-05

/062 W
---------- 018329
Z O 271024Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA FLASH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2279

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3123

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJ: VISIT CANCELLATION

REF: ACCRA 3121

1. EUROPE AND AMERICAS DIRECTOR LAMPTEY TELEPHONED POL COUNSELOR AT 2150Z AND SAID GOG AT THIS TIME HAD NO PLANS TO ISSUE STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION CONCERNING CANCELLATION. LAMPTEY SAID MFA ASSUMED NEWS WOULD BREAK (OR HAD BROKEN) IN KINSHASA. HE ADDED THAT AS GOG HAS ISSUED NO STATEMENT ANNOUNCING VISIT IT MAY NOT ISSUE ONE ON CANCELLATION.

2. LAMPTEY WENT ON TO SAY THAT EVENTS OF DAY WERE MOST DIFFICULT OF HIS DIPLOMATIC CAREER AND HE KNEW THAT THEY WERE ALSO FOR OTOO AND QUARM. HE NOTED THAT MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN POSTPONED FOR AN HOUR, WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN USED BY CAREER OFFICIALS IN MFA IN ATTEMPT TO DISSUADE GOG FROM ACTION IT HAD INSTRUCTED MINISTRY TO TAKE.

3. LAMPTEY SAID MFA OFFICIALS USED ARGUMENT (AND HAD SUPPORT OF FELLI) THAT IF CHAIRMAN WERE INDEED TOO ILL TO RECEIVE KISSINGER THAT OTHER PORTIONS OF VISIT SHOULD BE CONTINUED
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NONETHELESS AND THAT ANOTHER OFFICIAL, PERHAPS MAJOR GENERAL

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OKAI, CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF, MIGHT DEPUTIZE FOR ACHEAMPONG.

4. POLCOUNSELOR NOTED THAT IF SUCH ALTERNATIVE HAD BEEN PROPOSED IT COULD HAVE BEEN PUT TO SECRETARY. FULLY EXPLAINED ILLNESS WOULD BE UNDERSTANDABLE, BUT FLAT CANCELLATION WITH NO EXPLANATION OF ILLNESS WAS DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT.

5. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN IN ADVANCE ACTION OF GOG WITH REFERENCE TO PRESS.

6. SINCE ABOVE DRAFTED WE UNDERSTAND BBC 2200Z NEWSCAST CARRIED KINSHASA STORY THAT VISIT CANCELLED. REASONS GIVEN WERE (1) SOVIET INSPIRED STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, AND (2) ILLNESS OF ACHEAMPONG.
BLACK

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TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, GH, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: KINSHASA
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